

REMARKS

This response is offered in reply to the Office Action of September 16, 2005.

On page 2 of the office action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph as indefinite with respect to coating gas. Claims 1-3 and 5 have been amended to recite a coating gas mixture comprising aluminum trichloride and a carrier gas. The amendments to claims 1-3 and 5 are believed to overcome the Section rejection. Reconsideration is requested.

On page 3 of the office action, claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious in view of the US patent 5,658,614.

Applicants believe the pending claims distinguish over the cited '614 patent. For example, the examiner acknowledges that the '614 patent does not teach the flow rate and volume percentage recited in Applicants' pending claims. Applicants would further note that the '614 patent does not teach the total pressure of the coating mixture in the chamber set forth in Applicants' pending claims. The 'coating conditions of the '614 patent typically involved a total pressure of the coating mixture in the chamber of 500 Torr (see US 5,788,823 and 6,136,451), which is beyond the total pressure of Applicants' pending claims.

Applicants fail to see how the cited '614 patent can suggest Applicants' pending claims 1-6 given the above discussion.

Moreover, Applicants believe that the cited '614 patent teaches away from the pending claims in disclosing an aluminum trichloride concentration of 9 volume % of the coating gas mixture. This leads away from the recitations of pending claim 1. The '614 patent does not disclose or suggest the features recited in claim 1.

USSN 10/674,059

The same is true with respect to the recitation in claim 2 of providing a concentration of aluminum trichloride of about 0.6 to about 1.2% by volume of the coating gas mixture in the chamber together with a total pressure of the coating gas mixture in the chamber of about 100 to about 300 Torr.

The same is true with respect to the recitation of claim 3 of providing a concentration of aluminum trichloride is about 1.0% by volume of the coating gas mixture in the chamber, and the total pressure of the coating gas mixture in the chamber is about 200 Torr.

On page 4 of the office action, claims 1-6 are rejected under the doctrine of obviousness double patenting in view of claims 1-22 of US 6,689,422.

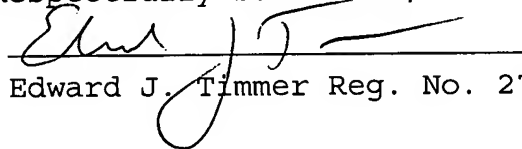
Applicants request reconsideration of this rejection. The '422 patent, like the '614 patent discussed above, does not disclose or suggest the combination of the features set forth in Applicants' pending claims 1-6. The examiner even acknowledges this deficiency of the '422 patent.

On page 4 of the office action, claims 1-6 are rejected under the doctrine of obviousness double patenting in view of claims 1-15 of US 6,291,014.

Applicants request reconsideration of this rejection. The '014 patent, like the '614 patent discussed above, does not disclose or suggest the combination of the features set forth in Applicants' pending claims 1-6. The examiner acknowledges this deficiency of the '014 patent.

Applicant requests allowance of the pending claims.

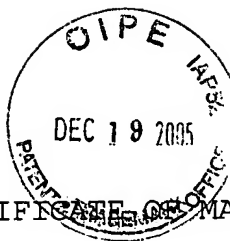
Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Timmer Reg. No. 27,402

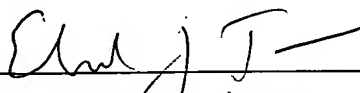
enclosure: Postal card

USSN 10/674,059



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 15, 2005.



Edward J. Timmer